



IFW

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Shinobu MUNEKATA et al

Serial No.: 10/593093

Filed: September 15, 2006

For: SEALING DEVICE FOR
RECIPROCATING SHAFT

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

As a means of complying with the duty of disclosure under 37 CFR §1.56, and in accordance with 37 CFR §§1.97 and 1.98, Applicant(s), through the undersigned attorney, submits this Information Disclosure Statement. The patents, publications or other information submitted herewith are listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 and copies are attached excluding U.S. patents and publications.

The documents listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 were cited in the International Search Report. A copy of the ISR is attached.

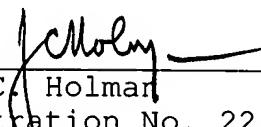
Document AA is being submitted as the English counterpart of Document AB wherein no English translation is readily available.

In accordance with 37 CFR §1.97(b)(1) or (2), this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed either within three months of the filing date of the above-identified application, or within three months of the date of entry into the national stage of the above-identified application as set forth in 37 CFR §1.491. Accordingly, no fee is thought required. Should any additional fee be required by the filing of this statement, please charge such fee to Deposit Account No. 06-1358.

Respectfully submitted,

JACOBSON HOLMAN PLLC

By:


John C. Holman
Registration No. 22,769
400 Seventh Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20004-2218
(202) 638-6666

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Date: December 11, 2006



INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/JP2005/004748

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
Int.Cl⁷ F16J15/32, F16F9/36

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

Int.Cl⁷ F16J15/32, F16F9/36

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Jitsuyo Shinan Koho 1922-1996 Jitsuyo Shinan Toroku Koho 1996-2005
Kokai Jitsuyo Shinan Koho 1971-2005 Toroku Jitsuyo Shinan Koho 1994-2005

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

| Category* | Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages | Relevant to claim No. |
|-----------|--|-----------------------|
| Y | JP 2003-130230 A (Kayaba Industry Co., Ltd.), 08 May, 2003 (08.05.03), Figs. 3, 4 (Family: none) | 1, 2 |
| Y | JP 6-17939 A (Karufuroidenberugu), 25 January, 1994 (25.01.94), Fig. 4 & US 5346230 A Fig. 4 & EP 563439 A1 & DE 59204935 C | 1-3 |
| Y | JP 2003-294154 A (NOK Corp.), 15 October, 2003 (15.10.03), Par. Nos. [0013] to [0024]; Fig. 1 (Family: none) | 3 |

Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.

See patent family annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:

- "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- "E" earlier application or patent but published on or after the international filing date
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"X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

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"&" document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search
07 June, 2005 (07.06.05)

Date of mailing of the international search report
21 June, 2005 (21.06.05)

Name and mailing address of the ISA/
Japanese Patent Office

Authorized officer

Faxsimile No.

Telephone No.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/JP2005/004748

C (Continuation). DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

| Category* | Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages | Relevant to claim No. |
|-----------|--|-----------------------|
| Y | JP 2004-116549 A (Kayaba Industry Co., Ltd.), 15 April, 2004 (15.04.04), Par. No. [0001]; Fig. 1 (Family: none) | 1,2 |
| Y | JP 2003-106462 A (NOK Corp.), 09 April, 2003 (09.04.03), Par. No. [0007]; Fig. 1 (Family: none) | 1,3 |
| P,X | JP 2005-23966 A (Tokico Ltd.), 27 January, 2005 (27.01.05), Figs. 1, 2 (Family: none) | 1 |

JACOBSON HOLMAN PLLC
 400 SEVENTH STREET, N.W.
 WASHINGTON, D.C. 20004-2201

LIST OF PATENTS AND PUBLICATIONS FOR APPLICANT'S INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

ATTY. DOCKET NO.: P71445US0
 SERIAL NO.: 10/593093
 APPLICANT(S): MUNEKATA et al

GROUP ART UNIT: _____
 FILING DATE: September 15, 2006
 TODAY'S DATE: December 11, 2006

 U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

| *EXAMINER INITIAL | DOCUMENT NUMBER | DATE | NAME | CLASS | SUB- CLASS | FILING DATE (If Appropriate) |
|----------------------|--------------------|-----------------|-------------------------|------------|---------------|---------------------------------|
| AA | <u>5346230</u> | <u>09/13/94</u> | <u>Schumacher et al</u> | <u>277</u> | <u>152</u> | _____ |

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

| | DOCUMENT NUMBER | DATE | COUNTRY | CLASS | SUB- CLASS | TRANSLATION (YES) (NO) |
|----|--------------------|-----------------|---------------|-------|---------------|---------------------------|
| AB | <u>0563439A1</u> | <u>10/06/93</u> | <u>Europe</u> | _____ | _____ | <u>XX</u> |
| AC | <u>06-017939</u> | <u>01/25/94</u> | <u>Japan</u> | _____ | _____ | <u>Abstract</u> |
| AD | <u>10-082467</u> | <u>03/31/98</u> | <u>Japan</u> | _____ | _____ | <u>Abstract</u> |
| AE | <u>2000-046092</u> | <u>02/15/00</u> | <u>Japan</u> | _____ | _____ | <u>Abstract</u> |
| AF | <u>2003-106462</u> | <u>04/09/03</u> | <u>Japan</u> | _____ | _____ | <u>Abstract</u> |
| AG | <u>2003-130230</u> | <u>05/08/03</u> | <u>Japan</u> | _____ | _____ | <u>Abstract</u> |
| AH | <u>2003-294154</u> | <u>10/15/03</u> | <u>Japan</u> | _____ | _____ | <u>Abstract</u> |
| AI | <u>2004-116549</u> | <u>04/15/04</u> | <u>Japan</u> | _____ | _____ | <u>Abstract</u> |
| AJ | <u>2005-023966</u> | <u>01/27/05</u> | <u>Japan</u> | _____ | _____ | <u>Abstract</u> |

OTHER ART (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

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|----|-------|
| AK | _____ |
| AL | _____ |
| AM | _____ |

| EXAMINER | DATE CONSIDERED |
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* EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant(s)